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Ueber die Anwendung der Methode der Mittleren Abstufungen auf den Lichtsinn. DR. A. LEHMANN. *Philos. Studien*, 4 Heft. 1886.

The single careful study of this fourth psycho-physic method of average gradation made by Delboeuf, seemed to Dr. Lehmann, working under Wundt's guidance, inconclusive as to the validity of the method. Accordingly, he constructed three large disks of 10 cm. radius, each rotating independently by clockwork. One of these disks had of its four sectors the two alternate sectors black. By a pair of double sectors, one black and the other white, the shade of the other disks could be varied. The problem was to get the sectors of the middle disk, in a room uniformly lighted artificially, so that its shade seemed about midway between that of the other two. The first result showed that it made a great difference in judging whether the quantity of light from the middle disk was gradually increased or diminished. The conclusion of a long series of experiments was that the influence of contrast cannot be excluded, and vitiates the method of average gradation. Contrast could only be excluded by having a background for the middle disk that should always have the same degree of brightness as it has, changing with it, and the three disks must have such a distance between them as to exclude reciprocal contrast. Whether these difficulties can be overcome, can only be ascertained by further experiments.

Ueber die Theorie des Simultanen Contrasts von Helmholtz. E. HERING. *Pflüger's Archiv.* 1887. pp. 172.

Helmholtz's theory of simultaneous contrast seems to its author to have one of its strongest vouchers in the following experiment with colored shadows: Let a white surface be illuminated by a feeble ray of daylight and also by the reddish yellow light of a candle or gas jet, and let each cast a shadow upon this surface. The shadow of the first is yellow and that of the latter is blue, although it falls on a spot which receives only daylight. This is partly due to successive and partly to simultaneous contrast, and the former is readily eliminated. If the shadow cast by the gas is viewed through a tube so directed that the eye sees only a field within the gas-shadow, it does not seem blue, but does so if a part of the field lit by the gas is seen, adds Helmholtz. Hering, however, declares that this subjective blue is in no sense a "judgment," but is a regular phenomenon of successive contrast, and also that Helmholtz has made a similar error respecting the disappearance of the blue when the tube is laid aside. Hering proceeds to give an elaborate modification of this experiment in three phases, the description of which involves many pages, and which seems to show that the purely psychological explanation of this phenomenon should give place to his own physiological interpretation.

A Contribution to the Pathology of Dreams and of Hysterical Paralysis.
By CH. FÉRÉ, M. D., of the Bicêtre Hospital, Paris. *Brain.*
January, 1887.

It has been repeatedly observed that hallucinations that begin during sleep and are reproduced for several nights consecutively, end by being received as realities during the daytime. Diurnal delirium and even suicidal and homicidal impulses have been observed after two or three nights of dreaming. A single dream